Subj: Ruby's Mafia Ties? Section: Oswald/Ruby/et al. [15]
From: David E. Scheim 73750,3305 # 6672, 1 Reply
To: Gerald Posner 73700,2626 Date: 20-Oct-93 11:03

Gerald,

I just got back from Chicago and look forward to reading what you have posted concerning the Zoppi affair. I wish you had addressed it to me.

> I think that Bill Roemer's overview of the Chicago mob (based upon years of illegal wiretaps of their headquarters) is definitive on the issue of whether Ruby was connected to the Chicago mob. See page 354 of CC, where Roemer says that "Ruby was absolutely nothing in terms of the Chicago mob.
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To say that surveillance of the Chicago Mob is relevant in a Mafia conspiracy in which all signs point to Carlos Marcello as the instigator is like a doctor saying,

"I put my stethescope right on the patient's knee and could detect absolutely no sign of a heart murmer"

Ruby was certainly nothing more than a small time hoodlum associated with Mafia elements during his youth in Chicago, as I detail in my chapter "Molding of a Mobster." During the decade after his move to Dallas, however, as his Mob career progressed, and other Chicago Syndicate pioneers were killed, left town, etc., he rose in stature to a mid-level functionary in Dallas Mob gambling and narcotics operations.

What is relevant is Ruby's Mob position in Dallas during 1963, not his petty racketeering in Chicago in the 1940s. Ruby's Dallas activities and contacts are described by many FBI sources, e.g. Moore, Curry, Hall, Abadie, Hardee, and many others, none of which you mention in your book. An FBI source of impeccable credibility described Ruby as a "frequent visitor and associate" of Dallas Mafia boss Joseph Civello. Ruby was also close with underboss Joe Campisi; who visited Ruby in jail on 11/30/63. Campisi saw Ruby the night before the assassination at his Egyptian Lounge, which, by the way, Tony Zoppi patronized and plugged in his newspaper columns.

What is also relevant is the extensive calls and visits by Ruby in the latter part of 1963 to notorious Mobsters nationwide; his rate of out-of-state calls increased 25-FOLD from January through November, 1963.

In Case Closed, you cite a few telephone calls of Ruby to some Mob types

as if this were the only indications of his Mob connections.

Then you quote 500 words from Tony Zoppi, someone who admitted to you an "astonishing fabrication to Congress" about Ruby and had many other credibility problems on the subject, to say that Ruby had no Mob connection. You mention not a word about Zoppi's credibility problems in your book.

I don't think that Roemer's statements about the Chicago Mob and Zoppi's pronouncements about Ruby stack up against the federal evidence of Ruby's Mob activities and contacts in Dallas. -- David